

# DOCKET SECTION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

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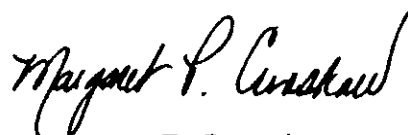
Postal Rate and Fee Changes

Docket No. R97-1

## NOTICE TO PARTICIPANTS

(April 2, 1998)

Notice is hereby provided to all participants of record in this docket that the attached letter was sent to each individual member of the United States Postal Service Board of Governors.



Margaret P. Crenshaw  
Secretary

Attachment

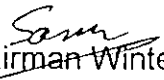
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20268-0001

Office of the Chairman

March 20, 1998

The Honorable Sam Winters  
Chairman  
Board of Governors  
United States Postal Service  
475 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W., Room 10300  
Washington, D.C. 20260-1000

Dear  Chairman Winters:

I am writing to congratulate the Board of Governors for its decision to "extend eligibility for current Group E (no fee) PO boxes to customers located within one quarter mile of a non-city delivery office (quarter-mile customers)."<sup>1</sup>

Allow me to say that on behalf of the Postal Rate Commission, this decision represents a good example of a consensus response by the Postal Service to a Commission recommendation. Moreover, it constitutes an important commitment to at least one-million American households in extending the same privilege of free mail delivery to the "quarter-mile customers" that is given to other American households.

As we stated in our April 2, 1997 recommendation on this longstanding inequity:

The Commission believes it is equitable to offer one post office box at no charge to any customer ineligible for carrier delivery ... The Postal Service is urged to re-evaluate the quarter-mile rule in an expedient manner and rectify any inequities caused by this rule. This record is devoid of any reason or justification why customers should be charged for box service when that service is their only means of receiving mail. The Commission endorses the Postal Service's stated goal of offering one free method of delivery to all customers.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> "Rebuttal Testimony of Kirk T. Kaneer On Behalf Of United States Postal Service." Postal Rate And Fee Changes, 1997. Docket No, R97-1. USPS-RT-19. P. 24, Footnote 7. (Received March 9, 1997. Postal Rate Commission.)

<sup>2</sup> Opinion and Recommended Decision. Special Services Fees and Classifications. Docket No. MC96-3. April 2, 1997. Postal Rate Commission. Pages 62 and 63.

Page 2  
The Honorable Sam Winters

We look forward to continuing to work together to find ways to act in the best interests of the public and the mailing community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Ed Gleiman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Edward J. Gleiman

cc: The Honorable Dan Burton  
The Honorable Henry A. Waxman  
The Honorable John M. McHugh  
The Honorable Chaka Fattah  
The Honorable Fred Thompson  
The Honorable John Glenn  
The Honorable Thad Cochran  
The Honorable Carl Levin

encls.